



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
Room 372, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, CA 90012 – (213) 974-1465

FOUNDER
Mrs. Sybil Brand

CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Eleanor R. Montano

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Helen Stathatos

Mr. Frank S. Bacio
Mr. Vito Cannella
Mr. James Cragin
Mr. John A. Hammargren
Mr. Carl E. Moore
Mr. Michael A. Russell

MINUTES **OF THE REGULAR MEETING** **OF APRIL 21, 2004**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Montano at 10:02 a.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chairperson Montano led the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

B. Eugene Romig administered the Oath of Office to the Commission's newly elected officers, Eleanor R. Montano, Chairperson and Helen Stathatos, Vice Chairperson.

ATTENDANCE - ROLL CALL

Present:

Chairperson Eleanor R. Montano
Vice Chairperson Helen Stathatos
Frank Bacio
John Hammargren
Carl Moore
Michael Russell

Excused Absence:

James Cragin
Vito Cannella

Staff:

B. Eugene Romig
Dedie Ward
Sherry Scates

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 14, 2004

On motion of Commissioner Hammargren, seconded by Commissioner Moore and unanimously carried, the minutes of April 14, 2004 were approved with the following corrections:

- **Page 4, second sentence; delete** *nurse practitioners*
- **Page 4, third paragraph, second sentence; delete** *Owner*

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Montano reported that she and Vice Chairperson Stathatos visited the home of Sybil Brand on April 21st and were given numerous plaques and mementos previously awarded to Mrs. Brand, which will be added to others on display at the future Sybil Brand Memorial in the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration.

Chairperson Montano reported that she attended the Los Angeles County Volunteers' Awards Luncheon on April 20th at the Music Center. During the program, Supervisor Michael Antonovich presented a posthumous tribute to Sybil Brand, which included a pictorial representation of Mrs. Brand's many accomplishments throughout her years of service. Among the numerous awardees was Paul Byrne, recently retired secretary to the Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections.

TREASURER'S REPORT

None

CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS

Chairperson Montano reported that the Commission received a report from the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) regarding areas of concern at the Salvation Army – Booth Memorial Center Group Home, which was shared with Commissioners.

FACILITY/GROUP INSPECTION REPORTS

USC Medical Center Jail Wards- 13th Floor

Commissioners Bacio, Hammargren and Russell visited this facility at 1200 State Street, Los Angeles on April 15th and were escorted by Sgt. Kampen and Mr. Martin. The facility was clean and well maintained; **overall rating was satisfactory**. Staff was well trained and the leadership was outstanding. Head Nurse Nelson expressed a need for more nurses. Area of concern: Lack of space for inmates from other jails that come to the clinic.

Commissioner Hammargren noted that this facility had recently undergone a Command Inspection by the Sheriff's Department Emergency Operations Bureau, which is a very in-depth inspection, so everything was in peak condition.

Inglewood Branch Court

Commissioners Moore and Montano visited this facility, One Regent Street, Inglewood, on April 15th and were escorted by Sgt. Nikolof, Deputy Angeles and the Officer in Charge was Sgt. Carol Rogers. They visited several other floors, as well as the lock-up area and the **overall rating was satisfactory**. Area of concern: communication is hampered by inoperable radio units.

Inglewood Juvenile Court

Commissioners Moore and Montano visited this facility, 110 East Regent Street, Inglewood, on April 15th and were escorted by Mr. Sims. Staff was very courteous and knowledgeable; the **overall rating was satisfactory**. Areas of concern: broken floor tiles; needs new thermometer on refrigerator; water fountain lacks sufficient water pressure; and lock-up needs painting. As the lock-up's appearance is an issue of long-standing, **follow-up is recommended**.

Van Nuys Superior Court

Commissioners Stathatos and Cannella visited this facility, 14400 Erwin Street Mall, Van Nuys, on April 15th and were escorted by the Officer in Charge, Senior Deputy Kimball, who was very helpful and courteous. The facility was clean and well maintained; the **overall rating was satisfactory**. Areas of concern; there is no data drop line connecting the senior deputy's computer to the Sheriff's Department network; in another area, there is a data drop line but no computer; installation of an additional phone is needed. Requests for these items have been made to the Sheriff's Facility Maintenance Department, but are still pending.

Temple City Sheriff's Station

Commissioners Stathatos and Cannella visited this facility, 8838 Las Tunas, Temple City, on April 19th and were escorted by Deputy Williams and Lt. Sanchez and the Officer in Charge was Capt. Richard Shaw. The facility was clean and well maintained; the **overall rating was excellent**. Areas of concern: the Xerox machine needs replacing. The emergency

breathing apparatus and tanks are sufficient, but very old and need replacing.

Downey Superior Court

Commissioners Bacio and Moore visited this facility, 7500 Imperial Highway, Downey, on April 20th and were escorted by Sr. Deputy Martin, Sgt. Merion and the person in charge was Mr. Caudill. There are plans to implement the Sheriff's Department Volunteer Program to facilitate the high volume of public inquiries. The **overall rating was satisfactory** with no areas of concern.

Pomona Branch Court

Commissioners Hammargren and Montano visited this facility, 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona, on April 20th and were escorted by Deputy Bob Fowler and Sgt. Graff. Facility was clean and well maintained; the **overall rating was satisfactory**. Areas of concern: there are TV monitors but no personnel to monitor them; there are no security cameras inside or outside in the Sally Port area. Area of significant concern: the facility is completely without security after 6:00 p.m. and on weekends, which poses a significant security/safety hazard.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lydia Fernandez, Probation Department, introduced herself and advised that she would be taking over for Joe Estrada, who retired recently. Commissioners and staff introduced themselves and welcomed Ms. Fernandez.

Commissioner Moore asked the disposition of the pepper spray issue; Ms. Fernandez will research and report back to the Commission.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairperson Montano advised that new magnetic Commissioner name badges have been ordered and should be ready within the next week.

MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (TO BE PRESENTED AND PLACED ON THE AGENDA OF A FUTURE MEETING)

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Scates/Dedie Ward
Staff, Commission Services